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To: Kalyan K. Deshpande, USPTO

Art Unit 3623

Confirmation number 4977

FAX to 571-273-8300

July 16, 2007

From: N. K. Ouchi

Ref: 09/966,844

12 Pages plus cover letter

Examiner Deshpande

Attached is a response of the Office Action mailed April 19, 2007.

The inventor appreciates your assistance

Please call me for clarification/discussion, my phone number is 408-757-5862.

Thank you for your assistance.



N. K. Ouchi, Inventor

**Response to USPTO Office Action Mailed 4/19/07**RECEIVED  
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Confirmation Number: 4977  
Examiner: Kalyan K. Deshpande  
Art Unit: 3623  
Title: Project Workflow System  
Application Number: 09/966,844  
Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi  
Date: July 16, 2007

Status: This action is non-final

Claims 41-60 are pending

Claims 41-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Berg et al  
(U.S. Patent 5,999,911)

**Discussion of the Claims**

Berg invention and description is for a workflow where the steps in the workflow provide encapsulated launch and processing of complex processes and design automation tools. For each step, Berg provides dependencies so the data to be processed are in condition to be processed correctly. The design tool execution is beyond the control of the Berg workflow and the design tool may have returned to the workflow when the process failed to complete properly. The dependencies prevent execution of a subsequent step that is relying on proper completion of the previous step.

Dependencies also provide for pre-processing or post processing so data are in proper form for the step or subsequent steps. As described later, the dependencies in Berg are NOT used to determine the sequence of steps but to assure correct execution of a step with the dependencies. The dependencies disclosed by Berg are different from those of a project management system.

Per Claim 41:

1) Berg is not a project management system (column 9 lines 18-35, column 22 lines 47-59, Figures 2 and 5)